

CAB okays first loan for locals

by Fred S. Hunter

LAS VEGAS, NEV.—Stature of the local service carriers is improving, and the future is taking on rosier hues.

"We may not have it made, but it now looks as though we had a chance," observed one executive here during the meeting of the Association of Local and Territorial Airlines.

Big news at the session was the announcement that the CAB had approved its first loan under the Guaranteed Loan Act of 1957. This legislation had been actively supported by one-year old ALTA, and the announcement that one of its members, **Bonanza Air Lines**, was the first beneficiary gave the group a significant lift.

The announcement was given considerable emphasis by the fact that it was made here to ALTA in person by James R. Durfee, CAB chairman, during a luncheon at which he was the speaker. Also fitting was the fact that Bonanza was the host airline at the ALTA session.

The guarantee given the CAB's first O.K. is for 90% of a \$4,324,500 loan by the First National Bank of

Nevada to Bonanza for the purchase of six Fairchild F-27 turboprops. The planes are scheduled for delivery in December.

Further evidence that the prestige of the smaller carriers is on the upgrade was the attendance of a number of industry representatives. This was ALTA's first venture in making time available to industry representatives and it turned out to be so successful that Executive Director Joseph P. Adams said the procedure would be repeated at subsequent meetings.

Fairchild Engine & Airplane Corp., which has sold F-27s to several local carriers, had the biggest delegation and was host at a luncheon where Richard S. Boutelle, company president, revealed the roll-out of the first production airplane in accepted Las Vegas style—with girls carrying banners proclaiming "It's Here!"

Others in the Fairchild group were R. James Pfeiffer, executive director-customer relations; Marion Maxfield, asst. director-customer relations; W. H. Arata, chief project engineer,